

Victorian house, brown shingles, 2-½ stories, square window in cross-gable roof; south end has one-story wing, presumably the former store. Good condition. Just outside the take-lines for Northwest Expressway (Final Statement Section 4 (f) Statement). Demolished c. 1984. Owner: Margaret E. Smith.

691 **EMORY GROVE CAMPGROUND** - 1868 and after - North of Waugh Avenue, Glyndon. Methodist camp ground, originally a tent city, later developed into a complex of frame cottages, auditoria, and a hotel. A large, frame 40-room Victorian hotel with mansard roof (1887) survives, along with tabernacle and 48 one-story houses (dating from 1900 and after), many of them suitable for habitation except in winter. Camp was named for Bishop John Emory who was killed in a buggy accident on Reisterstown Road in 1835. John T. Marshall was hotel contractor, John E. Crout & Son, the roofer. Owner: Emory Grove Camp Meeting Association.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

city, town Crownsville state MD 21032

7. Description

Survey No. BA 691

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved

date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Emory Grove Hotel is a fairly plain three-story frame and clapboard structure in the Mansard style with broad porches, numerous shallow dormers, and 40 rooms. The interior woodwork is for the most part with its late-19th century door frames, stairs, and mantels. The hotel was intended to be Spartan but the entrance hall and main parlor have a certain amount of style and after their restoration in 1976 would make a good set for a Henry James or Edith Wharton movie. There is a large kitchen where much interior woodwork survives the modernization of the equipment. The newspaper items fail to name an architect for this building. John T. Marshall, Jr., was the contractor. The camp trustee Benjamin F. Bennett was a contractor in the city and worked with such architects as Carson, Cassell, and F. E. Davis, Baldwin and Pennington.

The 'tabernacle,' dated at 1883 by the county papers and the Baltimore Sun, was once believed to have been a market house in Hanover, Pennsylvania, but that tradition has recently been called into question. It is an entirely frame building, open at the sides, the roof supported by an array of visible roof rafters and struts, much in the tradition of barn construction. Old photos show corner brackets of scroll-sawn wood topping the supporting columns. At the rear, there is an open belfry.

Emory Grove.



EMORY GROVE HOTEL (1887).

8. Significance

Survey No. BA 691

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Emory Grove is part of a great tradition of out-of-doors religious meetings held in the summers beyond Baltimore City. John Ward provided a field near present Liberty Reservoir for such gatherings as early as 1814. Walters Camp Ground on Lyons Mill Road drew large audiences there in the late 1850s even though train travelers were faced with a two mile walk from the nearest station. Reisterstown Station was established by the Western Maryland Railroad in 1859 and was later renamed Glyndon when that summer resort and suburb developed twenty years later. The first camp meetings near that depot took place in August 1868.

The founders of the present camp were incorporated under the name Emory Grove Camp Meeting Association of Baltimore City and on April 14, 1871, they acquired title to 150 acres from Mary G. Worthington (Deeds EHA 69:485). The land had long been in the hands of two family members, both named John Tolley Worthington. The original survey names were "Murray's Plains Regulated" and "Cottage, or Welcome Here."

City participants lived in tents which they brought with them to pitch on spots designated along the streets of the canvas city. The property was named for Bishop John Emory who had been killed in a carriage accident on the Reisterstown Turnpike Road in 1835. Waugh Avenue is also named for a Methodist bishop.

Eventually the railroad provided an Emory Grove station, herdly two city blocks beyond Glyndon, mentioned in the Maryland Journal of May 7, 1881. The Emory Grove Camp Meeting Hotel was mentioned in the Maryland Journal of July 26, 1875. Manager of the hotel was F. I. Wheeler, who also advertised in the same issue. When heavy rains fell on the campers, the Towson paper reported that the residents built log fires in their tents (Maryland Journal, August 23, 1873). At some period, the association provided wooden floors for the tents; later accounts mention the use of stoves--in fact one young

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participant who had gotten drenched in the rain tried to dry his coat on the stove and of course burned two fist-sized holes in the back (Baltimore County Union, September 3, 1887). Another news item reported that a Chinese lantern had set fire to a tent near the tabernacle during a sermon; several ministers beat down the blaze (American, August 15, 1893). According to the same sources, the tents were festively decorated and provided with comfortable furniture like the parlor at home.

The first hotel, the "Emory Grove Hotel" and the "Thompson Avenue Hotel" were both wrecked by "the crushing weight of snow" as reported in the Maryland Journal, January 15, 1881.

When the sponsors of the campground failed to pay a mortgage they had been carrying since 1876, the property was sold at auction in 1881, purchased by a minister from a wealthy family and by two city manufacturers. Of the buyers, the Rev. David H. Carroll was the son of a part owner and manager of Mount Vernon Mills; Joshua Register was a noted bell-founder, and Benjamin F. Bennett was a building contractor who had built several city churches and would later construct the Goucher College Complex on St. Paul Street.

The auction advertisement in the newspaper mentioned only the Emory Grove station along with 195 acres. Part of the 45-acre tract was covered with "fine young timber" while the 150-acre portion was "heavily timbered with fine original forest timber." The advertisement placed by trustee Lawrence Lewis Conrad concluded, "The above two tracts comprise the lands of Emory Grove Association of Baltimore City, which have been visited every summer for some years by thousands of citizens" (Maryland Journal, May 7, 1881).

During a prior and unsuccessful attempt to retire the debt, a fair had been held in the city, attended by the President of the United States, Rutherford B. Hayes. (Gazette, February 14, 1878).

The new owners conveyed the property to the Emory Grove Association of Baltimore City on June 9, 1882 for \$5,400 (Deeds WMI 131:220). The Rev. David H. Carroll later served as president of the corporation.

Trolley car service to Emory Grove began in 1894 via Pikesville and Reisterstown (The Argus, Catonsville, January 13, 1894). The newspapers always reported in depth about the camp events. The highest statistic for attendance that we have seen enumerated 6,000 persons on a Sunday in 1891 (Baltimore County Democrat, August 15, 1894).

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The present hotel was reported under construction in early 1887 with John T. Marshall, Jr., as contractor. The building was to be 41 by 88 feet, four stories, with wings 21 by 53 feet, and a "back building" or rear wing at 26 by 53 feet. There was to be 25 feet of open porches. John E. Crout and Company installed the tin roof (Baltimore County Union, June 4, 1887). The hotel was to open on July 12 of that year under the management of the same John E. Crout, assisted by W. H. Emich (Baltimore County Union, June 25, 1887). Crout had once managed the dining room at Pen-Mar and supervised the Emory Grove premises in earlier seasons.

The following social item appeared in the Baltimore County Democrat, August 15, 1891:

A marriage was celebrated in the tent of the officiating clergyman, Rev. W. A. Koontz, at Emory Grove Camp, Sunday evening. The contracting parties were Trueman M. Magne and Georgiana Raynor, both of the 4th district. Only a few persons were present, as it was not generally known the wedding was to take place. The bride wore a brown traveling gown, with hat and gloves to match.

The same paper mentioned the hotel itself:

Rev. W. T. D. Clemm leads in singing the doxology at the table in place of saying grace at Emory Grove Hotel.

Shortly after its opening the Maryland Journal of August 20, 1887 stated:

Mr. John E. Crout's big new hotel is a complete success and furnishes a want long felt. It is the finest attachment of the camp.

The Baltimore American published a number of line drawings illustrating life at Emory Grove during August of 1893. Judging from the pictures, camp meetings were a dress-up event. Preachers were nationally known celebrities in those days, learned men for the most part, and their appearances fully reported. The Sun of July 27, 1903, reported on "The First Sunday at Emory" and noted:

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The first Sunday at Emory Grove camp meeting started very quietly but by evening the old grounds had taken on a little of the air of activity that characterized the camps of former years when Emory was in the heyday of its prosperity.

The first service in the tabernacle that day took place at 7 a.m., led by Benjamin F. Bennett, the building contractor mentioned above.

The centennial history of 1868 and articles quoting it placed the date of the tabernacle at about 1900, stating that the structure was originally a market house in Hanover, Pennsylvania, which was disassembled, put in storage, and then reassembled by Benjamin F. Bennett. However, recent research in Hanover by Doris Hammond of Glyndon turned up a number of photos showing the old market house being pulled down by a team of horses in 1872. The market house did not resemble the present Emory Grove structure. The recent (1991) book, Glyndon, The Story of A Victorian Village dated the tabernacle at 1884. Following that clue led to the Maryland Journal of June 23, 1883, which reported:

The grounds during the past few days have been nicely cleared, and a large auditorium on the spot where the old one stood, fifty by one hundred and twenty five feet has been erected.

A news item in the Maryland Journal of August 18, 1883, noted that the Rev. D. H. Carroll was the donor of the auditorium. A line drawing in the American of August 15, 1893, seems to be the present building, looking exactly like the tabernacle in a vintage photograph reproduced in Brooks and Parsons' Baltimore County Panorama (page 199).

There were several other camps at Glyndon, and in their great days, the events drew enough traffic to fill 50 to 60 trains per day; the annual report of the Western Maryland Railroad cited the congestion as a factor in the decision to double-track the whole division (Annual Report, 1906, page 13). The other camps included the Colored Camp Meeting Ground at Saint George's Station, the Prohibition Camp Meeting Association, the Aged People's Outing Association of Baltimore City, and the Glyndon Park Chautauqua Association of Baltimore City. During the early part of the century, about the 1920s, the tents were replaced by one-story cottages without heat. In fairly recent times, the cottages have been acquired by individuals and tightened up against the weather to make them habitable to the end of the residency season in mid-October. Until about 1945, every cottage was a uniform white.

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This property was assigned an MHT Inventory Number (BA 691) on July 31, 1972, at the request of Rod Wheaton, Historic Glyndon's site surveyor. Emory Grove is part of the Glyndon National Register Historic District established September 20, 1973.



TABERNACLE AT EMORY GROVE.

--Baltimore American, August 15, 1893

In 1993, the Office of Planning made a video tape of "The Grove" produced by Jack Dillon and narrated by Patty Beere. The film ends with a practical demonstration of frying and flipping at an annual benefit breakfast held in the hotel's spacious kitchen.

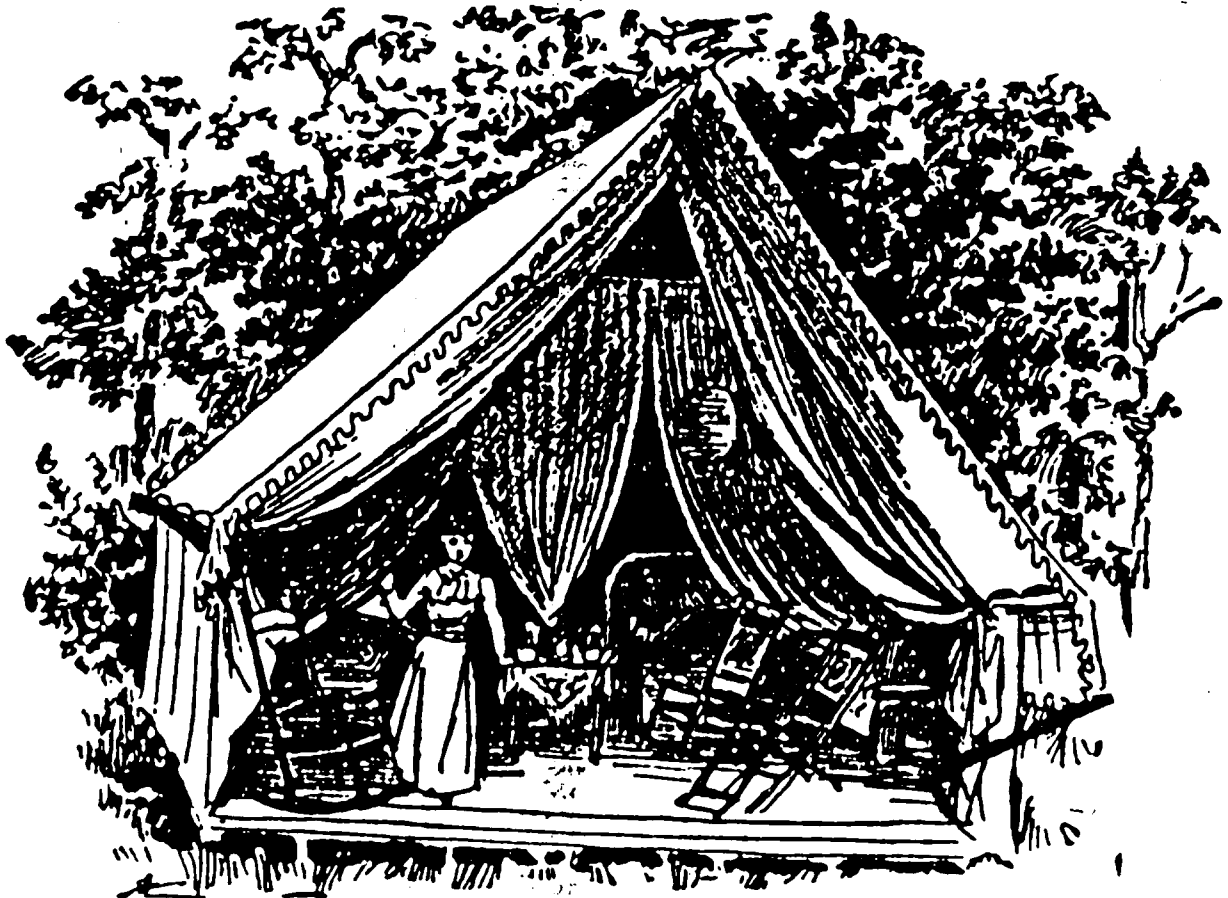
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MRS. W. D. ENSOR'S TENT.

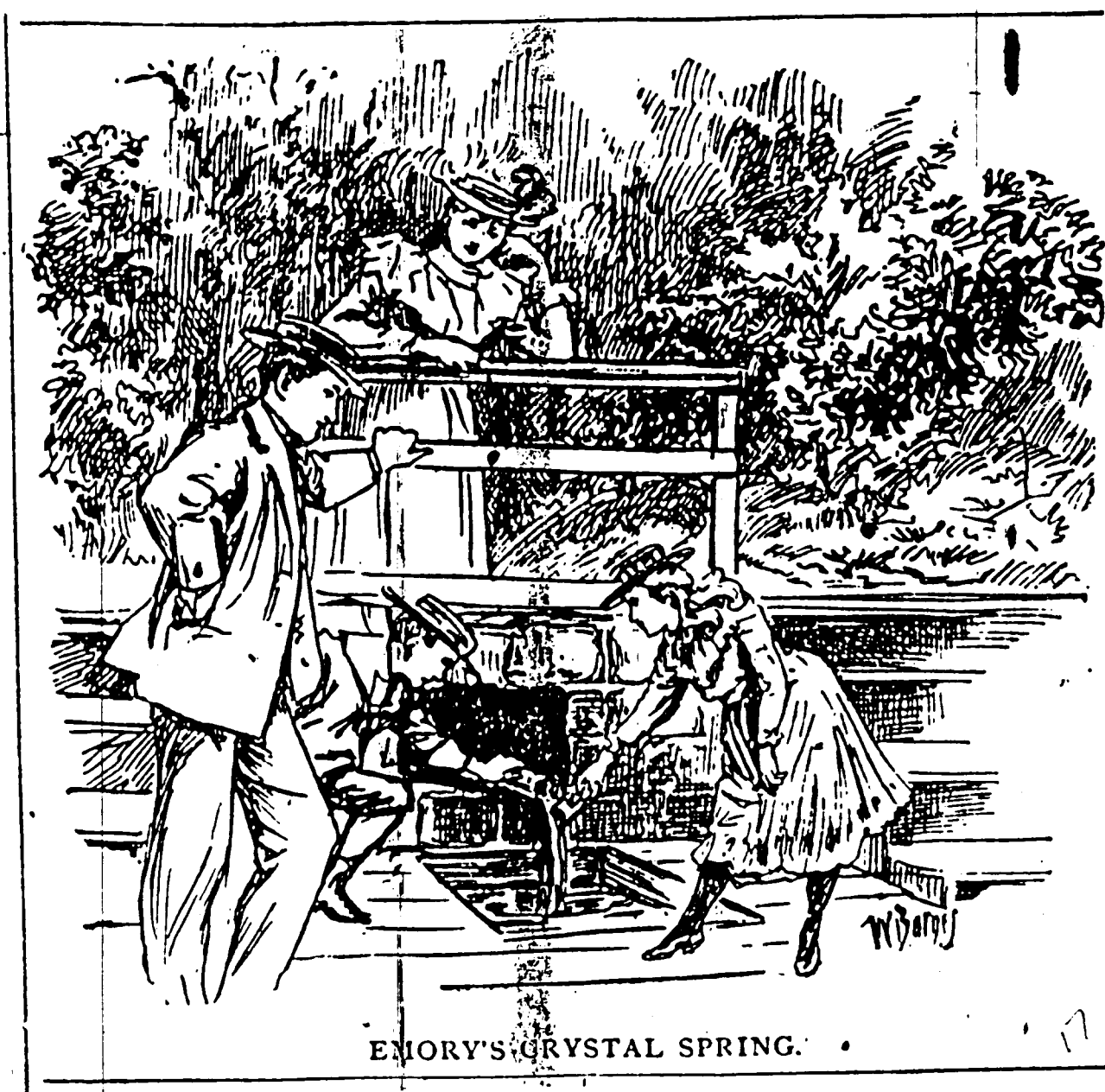
--Baltimore American, August 11, 1893

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--Baltimore American August 17, 1893.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. BA 691

"Emory Grove Ends Centennial Celebration Aug. 25," Catonsville Times, August 15, 1968.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 60.00

Quadrangle name Reisterstown, Md.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Irregular figure. See Tax Map 31, Grid 24, Parcel P203.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
N/A			

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John McGrain

organization Office of Planning

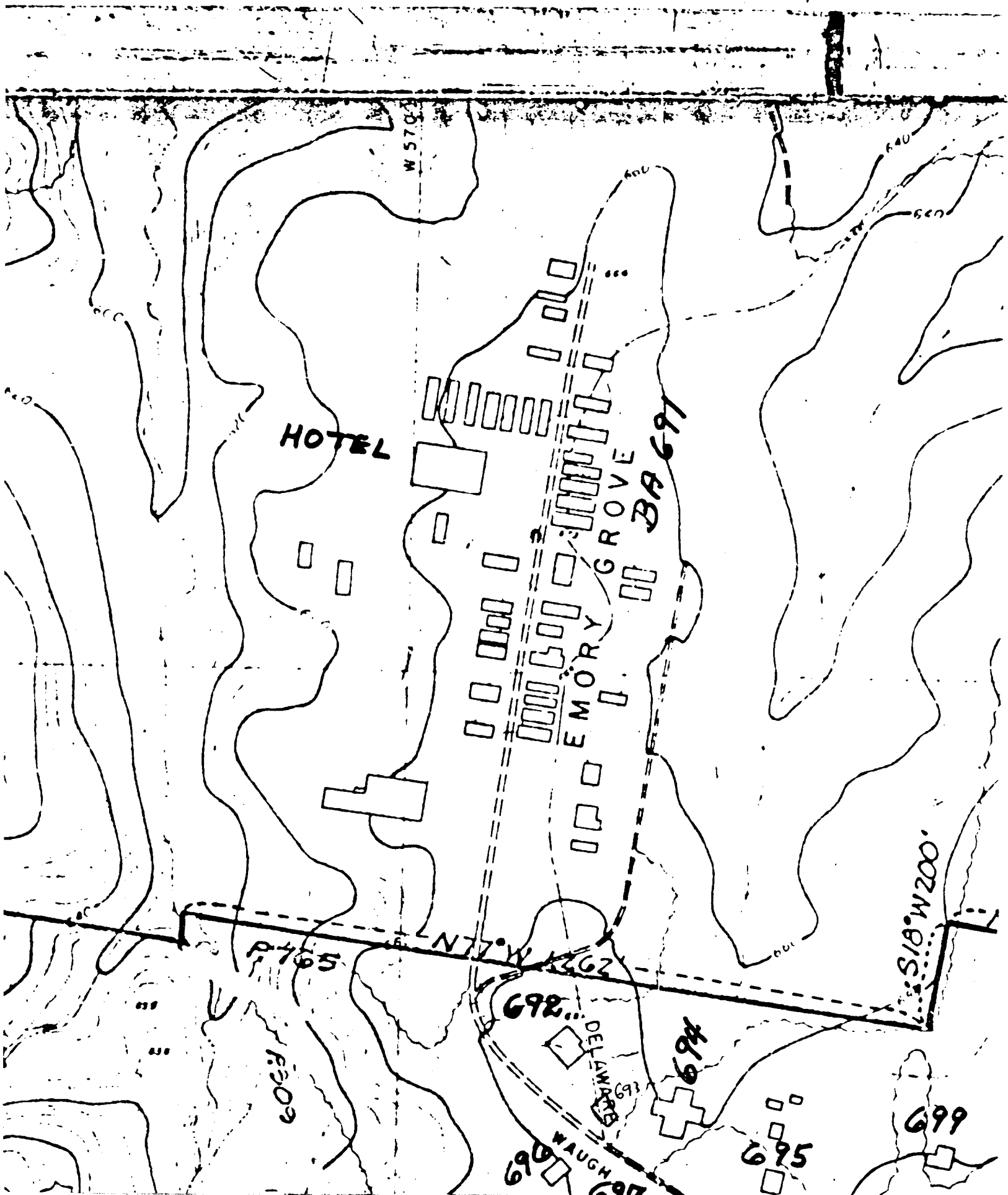
date October 20, 1997

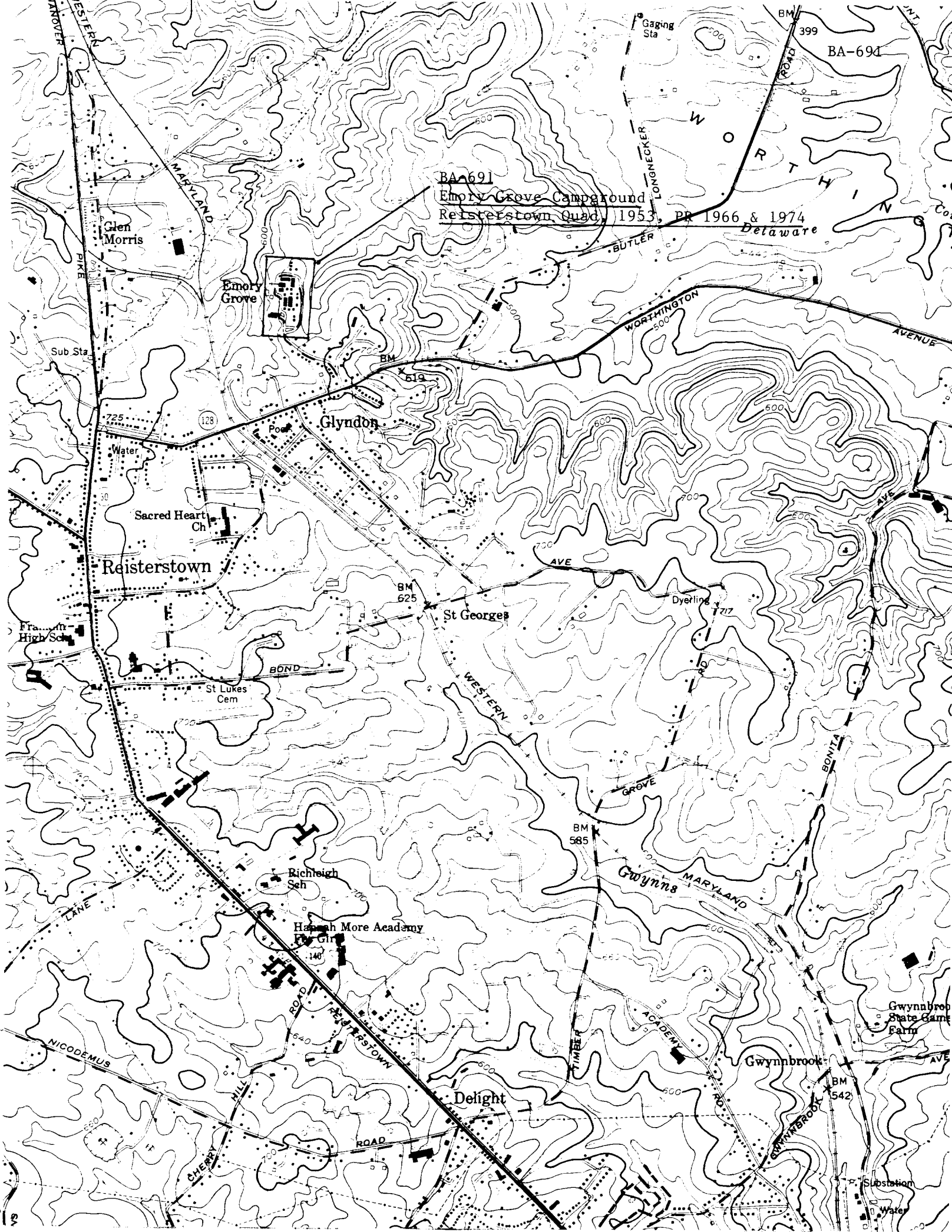
street & number 401 Bosley Avenue

telephone 410-887-3495

city or town Towson

state MD 21204





BA-691

Emory Grove Campground

Reisterstown Quad, 1953, PR 1966 & 1974

Delaware

Glen Morris

Emory Grove

Sub Sta

725

Water

Sacred Heart Ch

Reisterstown

Franklin High Sch

St Lukes Cem

St Georges

Dyerling

Richleigh Sch

Hannah More Academy

Reisterstown

Delight

Gwynns

Gwynnbrook

Gwynnbrook State Game Farm

Substation

Water



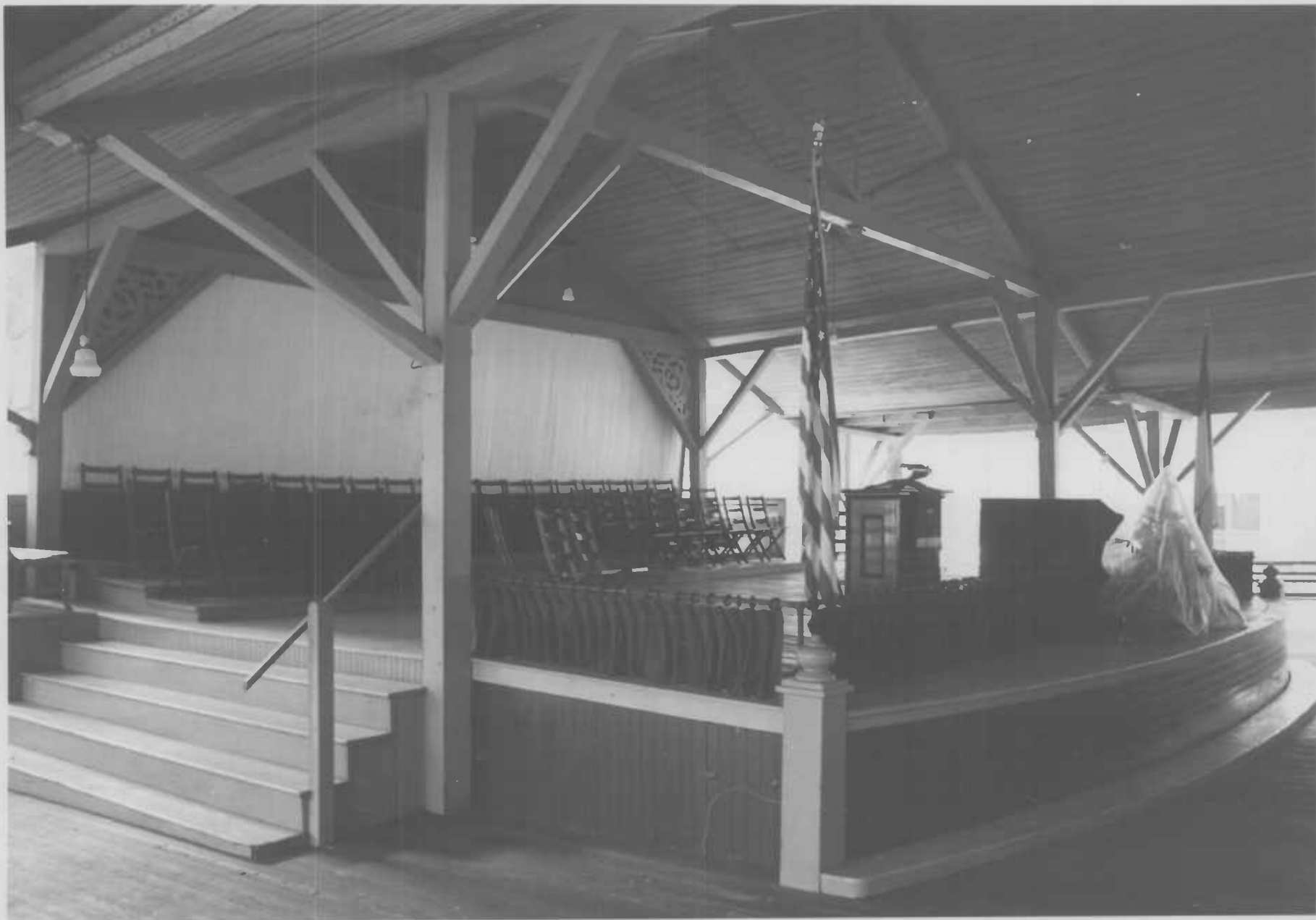
BA-691



EAST FACADE :
TABERNACLE
EMORY GROVE CAMPGROUND
GLYNDON
BALTIMORE CO., MD.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
2525 RIVA ROAD
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

ANTHONY O. JAMES
7/73



INTERIOR - LOOKING NORTH WEST
TABERNACLE
EMORY GRAVE CAMPGROUND
GLYNDON
BALTIMORE CO., MD

ANTHONY O. JAMES
7/73

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